Sketch of the Miraculous Image and the Confraternity of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Alphonsus

Also
a Practical Method
of Making a
Novena

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COMPILED FROM APPROVED SOURCES BY

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Our Mother
of Perpetual Help
Pray For Us

Approbation of the Ordinary

IMPRIMATUR

✠ EDWARD D. HOWARD
Archbishop of Oregon City

PORTLAND, ORE., January 4, 1927

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Sketch of the Miraculous Picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

How the Painting Was Brought to Rome, and to the Church of St. Matthew.

UP TO the close of the fifteenth century this painting was in the island of Crete, now called Candia, and was there venerated as miraculous. At that period a pious and wealthy merchant who had great devotion to our Blessed Lady, and was particularly attached to this picture, found himself obliged to quit the island. Fearing, on account of the proximity of the Turks, that the picture would be left to neglect and oblivion, or perhaps be dishonored by the enemies of Christianity, he resolved to obtain possession of it, and bring it with him to Italy, whither he was about to depart.

Merchant Dies

IT WAS not the merchant's intention to settle down in Rome. He had already selected another city for his future domicile, and thither he was to bring his treasured painting. As, however, this was not according to God's design, nor the Virgin's will, he was never able to put his purpose into execution. He fell sick, and died in the friend's house with whom he stopped in Rome; and thus the picture remained in the Eternal City, to be for that city; by divine dispensation, a never failing source of miracles and grace.

When the merchant perceived that all efforts to save his life were unavailing, and confident that the Holy Virgin had prepared for him a better place in heaven, he bequeathed his precious picture to his host, with the strictest injunction to preserve it with the greatest care, and see that it be placed in some church and exposed to the veneration of the faithful. The host promised to comply with his wishes; but he did not keep his word. The painting remained a long time in his house. Although he himself was willing to carry out his promise, his wife, who had taken a great liking to the beautiful picture, would not consent to give it up. For peace's sake the husband assented; but the Blessed Virgin did not assent. She had not sent that picture to Rome for the good

of a single family, but for that of the whole people. She appeared three different times to the husband, and gave him to understand that, if he did not fulfill his plighted word, he must expect severe chastisement. He related these visitations to his wife, seeking to obtain her consent to let the picture go. But he prevailed not, nor had he the courage to insist and send the picture away, although he feared the threatened chastisement. At length the divine patience was exhausted. For a last time the Virgin appeared to him, and to his horror said: "Thou canst not complain to me; three times I admonished thee. That I may get out of this house thou shalt go out first." And so it happened. He took sick and died in a few days. This was a terrible, but a just judgment on the man who, rather than displease his wife, preferred to displease and disobey the Mother of God, the Queen of Heaven.

One would imagine that the widow would now hasten to do that for the omission of which her husband had been stricken to death. But yet she could not bring herself to give up the picture. By a strange delusion she persuaded herself that the picture could be nowhere so safe as under her own roof. And thus she hesitated and waited from day to day, till at length a young and sinless daughter of hers rushed to her saying: "O mother!

I have seen her in the house a wonderful woman. O how beautiful she was! and her countenance shone so! And this woman said to me: 'Go at once to your mother and to your grandfather and say to them, Our Lady of Perpetual Help wishes to be placed in a church.' "

Brought to her senses by this appeal of her guileless child, the widow at once made up her mind to carry out the will of the Blessed Virgin. But before she put her resolution into effect, one of her acquaintances, a wicked woman, who had heard of the affair, called in, and strove, by blasphemous reasoning to persuade her to retain the picture and not to mind what she termed foolish dreams and imaginings. The wicked woman had hardly ceased speaking when she was taken with violent pains, so that it was thought she was on the point of death. This sudden visitation was a punishment of her blasphemy, and she penitently besought forgiveness and relief from the Blessed Virgin. The ever sweet, good and compassionate Virgin heard her prayer. Full of faith and sorrow for her sins, the woman touched the picture and was miraculously cured on the instant.

Picture Is Given to The Augustinians

THIS miracle determined the widow all the more to hasten to comply with the divine will. It only remained to decide in which church the painting should be placed. Our Lady condescended to make her will known, on this occasion also, through the mouth of the guileless child. She appeared once more to the little girl, and said: "Between my beloved church of St. Mary Major and the church of my beloved adopted son, St. John of Lateran, do I wish to be." Between these two basilicas stands the church of St. Matthew, and in this church it was obviously the will of the Virgin that the picture should be placed. The widow accordingly hastened to the superior of the Augustinians, in whose charge St. Matthew's church then was, informing him of all the circumstances connected with the picture, and of her resolution to deposit it in the church. This solemn ceremony took place on the 27th of March, 1499, in the presence of a great concourse of people. On that day began that series of innumerable miracles and graces which for three centuries our Lady of Perpetual Help never ceased to dispense to her votaries through the medium of this picture. On the way from the widow's house to the church, a man whose arm had been paralyzed regained its perfect use upon touching the picture.

The Church of St. Matthew, as before stated, stood between St. Mary Major and that of St. John of Lateran, on the eastern slope of the Esquiline Hill. The ground on which it was built belongs now to the Redemptorist Fathers and is a part of the enclosed garden attached to their college of St. Alphonsus. Some of the ruins are still visible.

In the year 1477 Sixtus IV. made over to the Augustinians the house and church of St. Matthew. Saving an interruption of a few years, from 1652 to 1658, these fathers remained in possession of the same down to the year 1810. When the French took possession of Rome and the States of the church, the old and venerable church of St. Matthew was, by order, razed to the ground, to the great grief and scandal of the faithful, as well as to the detriment of Christian art, and the loss of many venerable relics of antiquity. The demolition was affected in the year 1798.

For the space of three centuries the picture of our Lady of Perpetual Help hung over the high altar in the church of St. Matthew, and not only in the beginning but all along down these three hundred years, continued to be the medium of wonderful graces and miracles. The older writers who treat of Rome's churches, shrines and holy things, invariably mention the picture in St. Matthew's and with one accord pronounce it not only miracu-

lous, but at all times and continuously so, and known as such all over the city.

It will suffice to cite as witness Cardinal Nerli, whose titular church was that of St. Matthew, and who lived in the adjoining villa, now the Redemptorist college of St. Alphonsus. The cardinal died in the year 1708, and says in his epitaph, composed by himself, that he had selected as his last resting place his own titular church, so renowned for the glory of the miracles wrought therein: "Tituli miraculorum gloria late fulgentis."

After his return to Rome Pius VII. gave the Augustinians in lieu of their convent of St. Matthew, that of St. Eusebius, and afterwards the house and church of Mt. Mary's in Posterula. Thither they carried the miraculous picture, and placed it in a private chapel in the monastery. Here the picture and its history passed almost into complete oblivion, and when the lay brother, Augustine Orsetti, the last surviving member of the Order, who had taken vows in the old convent of St. Matthew, died in 1853, at the age of 86, there remained, perhaps, not a single individual who knew that the neglected picture, hung away in a private chapel of the monastery, was the famous miraculous painting venerated for centuries in the church of St. Matthew.

The Wonderful Way in Which by Divine Providence, the Picture Come Into the Possession of St. Alphonsus' Church on the Esquiline

A PRIEST of the Redemptorist Order, Father Michael Marchi, a Roman by birth, was in his youth, a frequent visitor at the monastery of the Augustinians. He began to go there about the year of 1840, and continued his visit for a dozen years or more. During this time he frequently called on the old lay brother, Augustin Orsetti. The good brother, in the last years of his life, was almost wholly blind, and could seldom leave his cell. It was a great comfort to him to have someone to talk to. His conversation naturally turned on the past and on pious subjects, and frequently would he relate that the picture which was now in the monastery's private chapel was formerly highly venerated in the church of St. Matthew, and that a yearly festival in honor of the Blessed Virgin was celebrated in thanksgiving for the wonders she wrought through the instrumentality of that picture. Often would the old man repeat, with a certain solicitude and in an impressive manner: "Mind, Michael, our Blessed Lady of St. Matthew's is that which is in the private chapel. Don't forget it." After a pause he would repeat: "The miracluous picture of St. Matthew's is that in our private chapel;" and then he would add: "Indeed

it is! Indeed it is! Do you understand me? Ah, it was indeed a miraculous picture!"

In the year 1855, in compliance with the will of Pius IX., the Superior general of the Redemptorists fixed his residence in Rome. To this end the Order purchased the villa before mentioned, situated on the Esquiline Hill, between the church of St. Mary Major and that of St. John Lateran. At his death in 1707, Cardinal Nerli bequeathed his villa to a pious institution. In the course of time both the villa and the adjoining gardens had become the property of the princely family of the Gaetani. When the place came into possession of the Redemptorist Fathers, the villa was altered into a cloister, and beside it was built the church of St. Alphonsus.

Michael Marchi Becomes a Redemptorist

IN THE same year, 1855, Michael Marchi was received into the order, and was the first novice in the new college. Here, also, after completing his novitiate, he made his vows. Three or four years after this, the chronicler of the house was occupied in the study of the circumjacent antiquities of the Esquiline, and, as he perused the different authors, he came across many references to the old church of St. Matthew, and discovered, beyond a doubt, that in this church there had been a miraculous picture of our Blessed Lady. He related his discoveries to his brethren,

and among them to Father Marchi, who in turn related all that he had learned from the old lay brother, Augustin Orsetti. It was now known that the picture was still in existence; but of its history, or of the Virgin's wish that she be honored in that picture between the church of St. Mary Major and that of St. John Lateran, no one seemed to be aware.

There the matter rested, until an incident in 1863 again drew attention to the miraculous picture, and threw unexpected light on the whole subject.

Very Rev. Father Blosi's, S. J., Words

IN that year the Very Rev. Father Francis Blosi, S. J., an intelligent and zealous worshipper of the Mother of God, used to preach every Saturday in the church of the Gesu, on the virtues and glories of Mary.

His sermon on the first Saturday in February was on the ancient miraculous picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. There is no doubt that it was by her own inspiration he had selected the subject. The Redemptorist Fathers heard of this sermon, and forthwith some of them called on the preacher and asked him to favor them with a loan of the manuscript. He did so cheerfully, and gave them, besides, a great deal of further information on the subject.

We shall here quote a few passages from the sermon in question:

"It is my wish to take up my abode between my beloved Church of St. Mary Major and that of my dear adopted son St. John."

"I shall speak today on a picture of our Blessed Lady which was once famous for the miracles and cures wrought through its means, but which for sixty years past has shown no sign of the supernatural; and the reason of this in my private opinion, is, because for the last sixty years it has been housed away as a private possession, and is no longer exposed, as in former times, to the public worship of the faithful."

Recounting the history of the picture, he narrated how the Blessed Virgin had signified her wish that the picture should be venerated between the church of St. Mary Major and that of St. John Lateran, after which he exclaimed:

"O may God grant that among my hearers there may be some one who knows where that picture now is, and who would make known to the party retaining it the expressed will of the Mother of God! We may hope that whoever holds the picture, when thus informed, may be moved to recognize the wrong he is guilty of, and place the picture again in some church situated between the Esquiline and the Caelian as an object of public veneration."

The learned Jesuit concluded his discourse with the following words:

"Who knows but the discovery of this picture is reserved for our time, and that the blessed virgin who loves to be known as our Lady of Perpetual Help has an-

nexed to its discovery the granting of that peace and tranquility so much to be desired. Fortunate, may they esteem themselves who can help to bring about the restoration of this picture to public veneration."

Redemptorists Claim the Picture

AFTER reading that sermon, it became, as may well be supposed, the ardent wish of the Redemptorist Fathers, to see that miraculous picture restored to public veneration, and to have it, if possible, in their own church of St. Alphonsus. They considered that they had a special claim to the picture, not only because their church is between the two, St. Mary Major's and St. John Lateran's but also because they own the site on which the church of St. Matthew formerly stood, and their church of St. Alphonsus was substituted for that of St. Matthew. The members of the order, prayed earnestly to the Blessed Virgin to inspire their superior-general to take all steps necessary to bring about the desired end.

The superior-general himself was as anxious as any member of the order to obtain the miraculous picture for St. Alphonsus's church, yet he made no move in the matter. The time had not yet come. And thus passed two years. At length, yielding to entreaties, he resolved to ask his Holiness, Pius IX., for the picture. Ac-

cordingly, in an audience obtained on the 11th of December, 1865, he related in a few words the history of the painting, and handed his petition to the Holy Father. Pius IX., moved by that love of God's Mother so characteristic of him, took a pen and, without a moment's hesitation, wrote the following words on the petition;

December 11, 1865.

"The Cardinal Prefect of the Propaganda will send for the Superior of the Community of St. Mary in Posterula, and make known to him that it is our will that the picture of the Blessed Virgin referred to in this petition be returned to the church between St. Mary Major's, and St. John Lateran's, with the obligation, however, imposed on the Redemptorist of replacing the picture by some other respectable painting.

PIUS P. P. IX."

Picture Is Removed to Redemptorist Convent

EVERYBODY knows what confidence the Holy Father had in the intercession of the ever blessed, the immaculate Mother of God. He seized on every occasion to manifest this confidence and strove, by all means to infuse a like sentiment into the hearts of the faithful. We do not think we are much out of the way in saying that it is our belief that his Holiness was induced to issue the order above referred

to, so readily, in the hope that our Lady of Perpetual Help would come to the succor of the Eternal City, and restore peace to the Church.

When all preliminaries had been gone through, the day appointed by Providence for the restoration of the picture at length arrived. In the afternoon of the 19th of January, 1866, two Redemptorist fathers repaired to St. Mary's in Posterula, and received the painting from the Very Rev. Father Prior. Father Marchi found the picture where he had seen it in his youth, in the year 1840. It was wonderfully well preserved. The only injuries done it were caused by nails with which a cross-piece had been fastened on behind, to which strings of pearls and jewels had, it seemed, been fastened over the heads of the Blessed Virgin and the child. However, these defects were quickly remedied. A first-class artist succeeded in neatly covering up the holes, without interfering in the least with any other part of the painting.

It only remained now to bring the picture and its wondrous history to the knowledge of the pious people of the Eternal City. To this end, the superiors of the Redemptorist Order took immediate steps, by the erection of a beautiful and costly altar to our Lady of Perpetual Help. Over this altar the miraculous picture was hung, and, on its right, a painting of St. Matthew, to whom the former

church had been dedicated, and on its left, one of St. Cletus pope and martyr, who had founded the ancient edifice.

The Solemn Procession

FROM the 19th of January, 1866, to the 26th day of April, the picture was kept in a private chapel of the Redemptorist College. On this latter date, the feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, it was carried in solemn procession through the streets of the neighborhood before being placed over the altar specially built for its veneration. Along the streets strewn with flowers, palms and laurel branches, there were that day, it was computed, over twenty thousand people. The houses were all decorated, as is the custom in Rome on great festivals, with flags and banners, and a bright drapery streamed from windows and balconies.

When the appointed route had been gone over, the procession entered the church of St. Alphonsus. The church had been most gorgeously decorated for the occasion, and the innumerable lamps and tapers burning made the interior one blaze of light. The Right Rev. Bishop gave benediction with the blessed sacrament three times, and then the miraculous picture was placed over the high altar, there to remain during the Triduum.

The devotions of the Triduum, on the

Brother Orsetti points out the Miraculous Picture to Michael Marchi.

27th, 28th and 29th of April, were as follows: In the forenoon, a solemn pontical mass was celebrated at the high altar, the first day by the Most Rev. Archbishop of Petra, on the second and third day, by the Bishops of Terracina and Acquila. From early morning to noon the other altars were occupied by cardinals, prelates, and regular and secular clergy celebrating the holy sacrifice. In the afternoon, the Litany of our Lady was sung, a Redemptorist father preached, and cardinal gave benediction of the most holy sacrament. The cardinals who thus officiated were their Eminences, Panebianco, Pitra and Reisbach. At the close of the Triduum, his Eminence, Cardinal Reisbach, intoned the **Te Deum** in thanksgiving. The interest which the Roman people took in the discovery of this jewel passes description. Their joy was unbounded, and their devotion to the miraculous picture most ardent. The Roman newspaper which gave an account of the celebration says, in this connection, that the devotion of the Romans to the Immaculate Mother of God is so well known a fact, that nobody doubted they would manifest great interest in the solemn exposition of the miraculous painting. But, it adds the enthusiasm and joyous manifestations called forth on this occasion surpassed all expectations.

After the Triduum, the painting was allowed to remain all through the month

of May, over the high altar. Before it the May devotions were performed. On the 5th day of May, to the great joy of all, the Holy Father came himself to venerate the picture. He spoke of the great pleasure and interest he had taken in all that had been done and implored a blessing on all who would devoutly visit the relic. He ordered a copy of the painting for his own room, and as he informed the General of the Redemptorist, spent some portion of each day before it in veneration.

The rush to the church of St. Alphonsus continued unabated. Every hour of the day one might see a number of people of all classes before the picture, beseeching Our Lady of Perpetual Help to succor them in their troubles and necessities, and to vouchsafe to grant peace to the Church, and grace and light to the Holy Father. Numberless instances of prayers heard and graces granted were recorded every day.

Description of the Picture

THE picture is twenty-two inches wide, painted in the Byzantine style, on a groundwork of gold. It betrays the hand of a master, as able as he was pious, and, according to the most competent critics, dates from the thirteenth century.

Our Blessed Lady, in half figure, holds her divine child on her left arm, with the right gracefully held in view. The eyes of

the painting look straight at the beholder with a loving, but earnest expression, and seem to speak the anguish and sorrow of her soul at the sufferings of her divine Son. A dark blue mantle, with green lining, covers her head, and falls in easy folds down her shoulders. Just over the forehead a small star is on the mantle, and immediately under this star is the band by which the mantle is fastened round the front part of the head. Along this band run lines of gold, and similar lines are seen along the edge of the red garment in which she is clothed. Gold is also used in accordance with the custom of that age, in the bright lines by which, in contrast with the deep blue shading, the folds of the mantle are depicted. On either side of the head four Greek letters are seen, which stand for the words, "Mother of God."

The divine child is in full figure, and in His sweet countenance is expressed the pain He feels at the sight of the cross which the angel holds before Him. As if seeking protection from His mother, He grasps her right hand. His robe is green, His mantle a dark yellow, and His cincture a carmine red. He wears sandals, one of which is fastened to the foot, the other hanging loose. Over His left shoulder are the Greek letters signifying "Jesus Christ."

On either side of the Virgin's head, and on a line with the lower part of her features, is seen a half-figure angel in most respectful attitude. The angel on the right

holds in his hand a vessel in which are the lance and the reed with a sponge. Over him are the initials in Greek of Michael the Archangel. The angel on the left holds up before the divine Child a cross bearing the usual inscription. This cross differs from the ordinary shape, in that it has a second cross-piece midway between the foot and the usual one. Besides the cross the angel holds in his hand four nails, and over him the initials in Greek of St. Gabriel the Archangel.

The Artist's Conception in the Picture

THERE is a traditional belief among the faithful that the pious artist who painted the picture wished to portray on canvas the thought contained in the words of David's prophecy concerning Our Blessed Redeemer. **"My sorrow is ever before me."**

Tradition tells the following story. The Child Jesus was one day playing peacefully in the little garden that surrounded His humble home when suddenly there appeared before Him two Archangels from the highest heavens, bearing the blood-stained instruments of His future passion and death. The cross, the nails, the lance, and the dripping sponge of vinegar and gall, by command of the eternal Father, are boldly displayed before the wondering eyes of the tender Infant. At sight of this awful vision the divine Child is startled and frightened. Instinctively He rushes to His

Mother's arms for protection; His trembling fingers clasp the Mother's right hand, while she with her left arm draws Him tighter and nearer to her bosom. So terrified was the Child at the sight of the awful vision, that in His haste to reach His Mother's sheltering arms, one of His sandals became unfastened, and in the picture is seen to be falling from the naked foot.

Amazed and alarmed, the divine Child still gazes upon the blood-stained instruments of torture as the angels continue to hold them before Him. He beholds in this awful vision all that He must suffer for the salvation of sinful men. Hence He is in very truth, a "Child of sorrows," as much as the, "Man of sorrows." He already recognizes all the suffering He must endure, though as yet afar off—the physical and mental agonies, the scorn of men, their rejection of His divine mission, His betrayal by Judas the weary lonely struggle of Gethsemane, the traitor's kiss, the cords and buffets, the terrible pain and shame of the scourging, and His unjust condemnation by Pilate. He sees the bloody steps from Pilate's tribunal to Calvary's heights. With eyes riveted upon those instruments of pain, He beholds the maddened crowd and hears the yells, the cries and curses of the ungrateful Jews, urging on the Roman strangers to hasten the work of nailing Him to the cross, that He might die the death of a malefactor.

Upon witnessing these fearful sights and hearing these woeful sounds, His eyes fill with tears and His heart bleeds.

As the vision of His future sufferings and death unfolds itself before His tender eyes now suffused with tears, He clings fervently to His Mother's breast, clasps her hand with trembling fingers, and seeks in her arms comfort and succor. Though terrified. He feels perfectly safe and secure in her sheltering arms. Thus ever and always, was the Mother the Child's consoler and Perpetual Help. Jesus turned to her, ran, to her, cast Himself into her arms, resting His head on her virginal bosom, and there found sympathy and sweet refuge. Mary, in a word was the perpetual help of Jesus her Son and her God. This then is the primary idea of the picture and the noble conception of the pious artist.

Confraternity of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Alphonsus

THE devotion to our Lady of Perpetual Help grew so rapidly after the picture had been set up for public veneration in the church of St. Alphonsus, Rome, that yielding to the wishes of the faithful a Confraternity was established on the 4th of June, 1871.

Almost from its inception the Confraternity, like the devotion to the miraculous picture, spread with marvelous rapidity. The early zeal of the faithful fore-

Pius IX. grants the Redemptorists possession of the Miraculous Picture.

shadowed the future. So extended had the membership in the Confraternity grown by the year 1876 that Pius IX. saw fit to erect it into an archconfraternity. His Holiness expressed the wish, at the same time, that his own name be set down at the head of the list of enrolled members.

Aim of the Confraternity

THE aim of the Confraternity is Ist—To serve and honor the Queen of Heaven under the title of **Our Lady of Perpetual Help** and to try to get others to do likewise.

2. To secure for one's self and for others the grace of final perseverance.

3. To have recourse to Our Lady of Perpetual Help in all spiritual necessities, especially in moments of temptation and suffering.

4th. To fly to Our Mother of Perpetual Help and also in temporal difficulties, appealing to her motherly heart with all confidence.

Membership

TO BECOME a member of the Archconfraternity, it is necessary:

No. 1. To be registered as a member in a church where the Confraternity is canonically erected.

No. 2. To make the act of consecra-

tion to Our Lady and St. Alphonsus. This may be made privately.

No. 3. Persons at a distance may be enrolled as members when they apply for admission.

No. 4. Members should always wear a medal of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

No. 5. Members should have in their homes a blessed picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Advantages of the Confraternity

1. The members are assured of the constant protection of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

2. Through this devotion the members are endowed with an influence almost miraculous, for the softening and converting of obstinate sinners.

3. The members share in the public devotions and other good works of the entire Archconfraternity.

4. Finally by the express will of the Superior-general of the Redemptorist Fathers, the members have a special share in the fruits and merits of the missions, the pious exercises, the apostolic labors, the prayers, the penances, and all other good works without exception which are performed by the entire congregation of the Redemptorist Fathers.

Plenary Indulgences

THE members of the Confraternity may gain a plenary indulgence on the day they have their names registered.

In the hour of death. (Brief March 10th, 1876.)

On the Sunday preceding the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24.)

On the feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Sunday preceding feast of St. John the Baptist), or on any one of the seven days following the feast.

On the 2nd of August feast of St. Alphonsus, or on any one of the seven days following the feast.

Once a month on the day chosen for the renewal of the Act of Consecration.

Once a month or any day chosen if the member recited daily for thirty days this prayer: "O Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for us; St. Alphonsus my Protector in all my wants make me have recourse to Mary."

Once a year by attending holy Mass which is offered for the deceased members on the first day permissable after the feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

The conditions for all the above indulgences are: Confession, Holy Communion, Visit to the church where the Confraternity is established, with prayers for the intention of the Pope. (If the visit cannot be made to the church of the Confraternity,

then any other church may be substituted. Religious living in community may make the visit in their church or oratory.)

Lastly a plenary indulgence may be gained in the hour of death.

Partial Indulgences

SEVEN years and seven times forty days if the members visit the church of the Confraternity, or if that is impossible any other church, on the feast of St. Michael, Sept. 29, and St. Gabriel, March 24, also on the feasts of St. Matthew Apostle, Sept. 21, Our Lady of Good Counsel, April 26.

Three hundred days if the members recite morning, noon, and night, the following ejaculation: "O, Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for me. My Protector St. Alphonsus, in all my wants make me have recourse to Mary."

Three hundred days once a day if they devoutly visit a church where there is a picture of Mother of Perpetual Help or St. Alphonsus.

Sixty days for every work of piety or charity of any kind.

All the above indulgences may be applied to the Souls in Purgatory.

The directors of the Confraternity have the faculty of blessing and attaching the Apostolic Indulgences to the medal of the Confraternity. These Apostolic Indulgences are determined by each Pope at the

beginning of his Pontificate. They are very numerous.

There are many other prayers and ejaculations to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, to which indulgences are attached for example one hundred days for saying: "Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for us." For longer indulgenced prayers see "Novena manual of Our Lady of Perpetual Help."

Some General Rules for Gaining Indulgences

THE pious works prescribed for gaining an indulgence, any confessor may commute to other pious works for all who are legitimately impeded.

To gain an indulgence attached to a certain day, the confession that is required, may be made eight days before, and the Communion may be received the day before.

Those who receive Communion devoutly and with proper intention at least five times a week, can gain all the indulgences for which confession is required, no matter how long the time since their last confession.

As to confession itself, those who ordinarily confess at least twice a month can gain all the indulgences.

(Directions for erecting the Confraternity may be found in the: "Novena Manual of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.")

A Practical Method of Making a Novena

SAY nine Hail Marys, the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and the following prayers for nine days. If possible, go to Communion every day during the Novena.

V—Thou hast been made for us O Lady, a refuge.

R—A Helper in need and tribulation.

Let Us Pray

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who didst give to us Thy Mother, Mary, whose renowned image we venerate, to be a mother ever ready to help us, grant, we beseech Thee, that we who constantly implore her aid may merit to enjoy perpetually the fruits of Thy redemption, who livest and reignest forever and ever. Amen.

Indulgenced Prayers for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Day of Novena

Behold at thy feet, O Mother of Perpetual Help! a wretched sinner who has recourse to thee and confides in thee. O Mother of Mercy! have pity on me. I hear thee called by all, the Refuge and the Hope of Sinners; be, then, my refuge and my hope. Assist me for the love of Jesus Christ; stretch forth thy hand to a miserable, fallen creature, who recommends himself to thee and who devotes himself to thy service forever. I bless and thank Almighty God, who in His mercy has given me this confidence in thee, which I hold to

be a pledge of my eternal salvation. It is true that in the past I have miserably fallen into sin because I had not recourse to thee. I know, too, that thou wilt assist me, if I recommend myself to thee; but I fear that, in time of danger, I may neglect to call on thee, and thus lose my soul. This grace, then, I ask of thee, and this I beg, with all the fervor of my soul, that, in all the attacks of hell, I may ever have recourse to thee. O Mary! help me. O Mother of Perpetual Help, never suffer me to lose my God.

4th, 5th, and 6th Day of Novena

O Mother of Perpetual Help! grant that I may ever invoke thy most powerful name which is the safeguard of the living and the salvation of the dying. O purest Mary! O sweetest Mary! let thy name henceforth be ever on my lips. Delay not, O Blessed Lady! to succor me, whenever I call on thee; for in all my temptations, in all my needs, I shall never cease to call on thee ever repeating thy sacred name, Mary, Mary.

O what consolation, what sweetness, what confidence, what emotion fills my soul when I utter thy sacred name, or even only think of thee! I thank the Lord for having given thee, for my good, so sweet, so powerful, so lovely a name. But I will not be content with merely uttering thy name. Let my love for thee prompt

me ever to hail thee, Mother of Perpetual Help.

7th, 8th, and 9th Day of Novena

O mother of Perpetual Help, thou art the dispenser of all the gifts which God grants to us miserable sinners; and for this end, He had made thee so powerful, so rich, and so bountiful, in order that thou mayest succor us in our misery. Thou art the advocate of the most wretched and abandoned sinners who have recourse to thee; come to my help, I commend myself to thee. In thy hands I place my eternal salvation, and to thee I intrust my soul. Count me among thy most devoted servants; take me under thy protection, and it is enough for me. For, if Thou protect me, I fear nothing; not from my sins, because thou wilt obtain for me the pardon of them; nor from the devils, because thou art more powerful than all hell together; nor even from Jesus, my Judge, because by one prayer from thee He will be appeased. But one thing I fear; that in the hour of temptation, I may, through negligence fail to have recourse to thee and thus perish miserably. Obtain for me therefore, the pardon of my sins, love for Jesus, final perseverance, and the grace ever to have recourse to thee, O Mother of Perpetual Help!

Prayer in Spiritual Wants

O MOTHER of Perpetual Help, with the greatest confidence I come before Thy sacred Picture, in order to invoke thine aid. Thou hast seen the wounds which Jesus has been pleased to receive for our sake; thou hast seen the Blood of thy Son flowing for our salvation; thou knowest how thy Son desires to apply to us the fruit of His Redemption. Behold I cast myself at thy feet, and pray thee to obtain for my soul the grace I stand so much in need of. O Mary, most loving of all mothers, obtain for me from the heart of Jesus, the source of every good, this grace (here mention it.) O Mother of Perpetual Help thou desirest our salvation far more than we ourselves; thy Son has given thee to us for our Mother; thou hast thyself chosen to be called Mother of Perpetual Help. I trust not in my merits, but in thy powerful intercession; I trust in thy goodness; I trust in thy motherly love. Mother of Perpetual Help, for the love thou bearest to Jesus, thy Son and my Redeemer, for the love of thy great servant Alphonsus, for the love of my soul, obtain for me the grace I ask from thee. Amen.

Prayer in Temporal Wants

O MOTHER of Perpetual Help, numerous clients continually surround thy holy Picture, all imploring thy mercy. All

bless thee as the assured help of the miserable; all feel the benefit of thy maternal protection. With confidence, then, do I present myself before thee in my misery. See, dear Mother, the many evils to which we are exposed; see how numerous are our wants. Trials and sorrows often depress us; reverses of fortune and privations are grievous, bring misery into our homes; everywhere we meet the cross. Have pity, compassionate Mother on us and on our families; especially in this my necessity (here mention it). Help me, O my Mother, in my distress; deliver me from all my ills; or if it be the will of God that I should suffer still longer grant that I may endure all with love and patience. This grace I expect of thee with confidence, because thou art our Perpetual Help. Amen.

Prayer in Sickness

O DEAR MOTHER of Perpetual Help, behold how much I suffer from this my sickness. Together with the body my soul is also afflicted. I have not even strength to say a prayer as I ought to do. Nothing is able to give me any relief. Even the visit and compassion of my best friends do not give me any comfort. Hence my courage begins to fail; impatience and sadness oppress my soul. In this my great distress I put all my trust in thee, most tender of all mothers. Thy

compassionate heart will certainly have pity on me; yes most merciful Mother, thou wilt not forget thy poor, afflicted child. (Here mention sickness.) Obtain then for me courage and strength to accept all these trials from the hand of God with patience and resignation. If it is for the good of my soul, grant that I may recover my former health; but if it is the will of God that I should suffer still longer, or that this sickness should lead me to a better life, I am perfectly resigned, for I am sure that thou, O loving Mother, wilt obtain for me the grace to do whatever God demands of me. Amen.

Prayer for the Wants of the Church

O HOLY Virgin Mary, whom we love to call Our Mother of Perpetual Help, show us that thou dost merit this beautiful title by continually shielding the Church and its august Head with thy protection. Through the infinite merits of Jesus Christ, which we offer by thee to the Eternal Father, do thou obtain for sinners the grace of a sincere repentance, for the dying, the grace of a holy death, for the souls of our deceased relations, the grace of deliverance from the flames of Purgatory, and for all of us the grace of pardon and abundant mercy. Amen.

Pius IX. before the Miraculous Picture of Our Lady of Perpetual Succor in the Church of the Redemptorists in Rome.

Prayer for the Conversion of a Sinner

O MARY, Mother of Perpetual Help, thou knowest so well the great value of an immortal soul. Thou knowest what it means, that every soul has been redeemed by the Blood of thy Divine Son, thou wilt not then despise my prayer, if I ask from thee the conversion of a sinner, nay a great sinner who is rapidly hurrying on towards eternal ruin. Thou, O good merciful Mother, knowest well his irregular life. Remember that thou art the refuge of sinners, remember that God has given thee power to bring about the conversion of even the most wretched sinners. All that has been done for his soul, has been unsuccessful; if thou dost not come to his assistance, he will go from bad to worse. Obtain for him an effectual grace that he may be moved and brought back to God and his duties. Send him, if necessary, temporal calamities and trials, that he may enter into himself, and put an end to his sinful course. Thou, O most merciful Mother, hast converted so many sinners at the intercession of their friends, be, then, also moved by my prayer, and bring this unhappy soul to true conversion of heart. O Mother of Perpetual Help, show that thou art the Advocate and Refuge of sinners. So I hope, so may it be. Amen

Prayer for Financial Aid

REALIZING dear Mother Mary, that thou art our perpetual help, not only in spiritual but likewise in temporal necessities, we approach thee with submissive and humble hearts, because we have a child like confidence in thy power and goodness, beseeching thee to assist us in our present financial worry. Owing to untoward circumstances which have arisen in our lives, we are in dire want and pecuniary embarrassment, being unable to meet our honest debts. We are not asking, dearest Mother, for wealth, if the possession of it, is not in accordance with the holy will of God; we merely beg for that assistance which will enable use to satisfy our pressing obligations. We believe, dear Mother, that thou art the Queen of heaven and of earth, and as such the instrument and special dispensation of thy divine Son Jesus Christ; that thou hast acquired by virtue of thy wonderful dignity, a sweet jurisdiction over all creation. We believe that thou art not only rich and bountiful, but extremely kind and generous to all thy loving children. We plead with thee then, dear Mother, to obtain for us the help we so urgently need in our present financial difficulty. We thank thee, dear Lady, and promise to publish far and wide, the marvels of thy glorious Picture. Amen.

Prayer to Know One's Vocation

BEHOLD at thy feet, O Mother of Perpetual Help, a humble and lowly client of thine, who is a prey to doubt and anxiety concerning his vocation. As thou art the established guide of poor mortals here below, to thee do I send up my sighs and tears, from this world's tempestuous sea. Knowing, dearest Mother of Perpetual Help, that I can be saved only in that state of life to which I have been attracted by the superabundant graces thy divine Son bestows on me; my one desire is to accomplish the holy will of God, in all that pertains to my future; for only in doing that shall I succeed in working out my eternal salvation. Meditating on those holy and inspired words: "With fear and trembling work out your salvation," fills me with dread and alarm lest following after the allurements of a wicked world, because more pleasing to my carnal inclinations, I may neglect the divine attraction to a higher life of perfection, and thus abusing grace lose my soul and perish miserably. O dearest Mother of Perpetual Help, guide and direct me safely in the choice of a state of life wherein I may best serve here upon earth, the divine plans of my Lord and Saviour, that hereafter I may see and possess Him for all eternity. Amen.

Prayer for Religious Vocations

O DEAR Virgin Mother, thou art recognized as the perpetual help of religious communities because thou dost form and prepare the hearts of thy chosen children who are called to imitate thy divine Son unto perfection. Whilst upon earth thy beloved Jesus, viewing the fruitful fields didst say: "The harvest indeed is great, but the laborers are few." How true are these words now. The harvest is ripe but the laborers are few. Direct then to our community, devout and generous subjects who are actuated by a sincere desire to continue the sublime work of Redemption and publish everywhere, the glories of Christ's kingdom. There are many pure and noble hearts which feel the divine attraction to the religious life, but fear to take a forward step, because they see only the sacrifices but not the reward. They see the sword but not the divine and merciful hand that inflicts the wound; they see the cross but not the crown. Obtain for these virginal souls, the courage necessary to renounce the allurements of a wicked world that they may follow in the footsteps of thy adorable Son Jesus Christ. Hence we beseech thee, O Mother of Perpetual Help, to send to our community youthful hearts, animated with a desire for their own sanctification and the salvation of immortal souls. Lastly dearest Lady as thou dost know so well the value

of a religious vocation, obtain for us thy devoted children, the greatest of all gifts, the grace of final perseverance. Amen.

Prayer of the Conversion of Non-Catholics

TRUSTING in thy goodness, O sweet Lady of Perpetual Help, because thou art the Mother of mercy and the refuge of sinners, we beseech thee to look with pitying eyes upon those who are living outside the pale of the one true Church. So many non-Catholics possessed of kind hearts, with a charity for God's poor, are honestly seeking religious truth, but with difficulty, because they are blinded by misinformation and inherited prejudice. These souls O Mother of Perpetual Help, are destitute of the knowledge of the one true faith, yet they must be dear to thee as they are to thy adorable Son Jesus, because redeemed by His precious blood. We plead with thee O Mary, for the conversion of all those who walk in the darkness of error and sin. Virgin Mother, as thou art called the: "Seat of Wisdom," enlighten the minds of our separated brethren, that they may discover the consoling truths of our holy faith, and having discovered them, willingly accept and believe in them. O Mary, grant us this wonderful favor, that all immortal souls ransomed by the blood of thy dying Son, may soon be united to us by the bonds of divine charity, so that there may be but one fold and one Shepherd. Amen.

Prayer for Perseverance

O HOLY Virgin Mary, who to inspire us with boundless confidence, hast been pleased to take the sweet name of Perpetual Help, I implore thee to come to my aid always and everywhere; in my temptations; after my falls; in my difficulties; In all the miseries of life; and above all, at the hour of my death. Give me, loving Mother, the desire, nay more, the habit always to have recourse to thee, for I feel assured that if I invoke thee with fidelity thou wilt be faithful to come to my assistance. Obtain for me then, this grace of graces, the grace to pray to thee without ceasing, and with childlike prayer that I may ensure thy perpetual help and final perseverance. O Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for me now and at the hour of my death. Amen.

Prayer of St. Alphonsus, to be Recited Every Day During Novena

MOST holy and Immaculate Virgin and my Mother Mary, to thee, who art the Mother of my Lord, the Queen of the world, the advocate, the hope, and the refuge of sinners, I have recourse today, I who am the most miserable of all. I render thee my most humble homages, O great Queen; and I thank thee for all the graces thou hast conferred on me until now; particularly for having delivered me from hell,

which I have so often deserved. I love thee, O most amiable Lady; and for the love which I bear thee, I promise to serve thee always, and to do all in my power to make others love thee also. I place in thee all my hopes, I confide my salvation to thy care. Accept me for thy servant, and receive me under thy mantle, O Mother of mercy. And since thou art so powerful with God, deliver me from all temptations, or rather obtain for me strength to triumph over them until death. Of thee I ask a perfect love of Jesus Christ. From thee I hope to die a good death. O my Mother, by the love which thou bearest to God, I beseech thee, to help me at all times, but especially at the last moments of my life. Leave me not, I beseech thee, until thou seest me safe in heaven, blessing thee and singing thy mercy for all eternity. So I hope. So may it be. Amen.

Twelve Invocations to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

V.—O Mother of Perpetual Help, thou whose very name inspires confidence.
R.—Help me, O loving Mother.
V.—That I may be victorious in the trying hour of temptation.
R.—Help me, O loving Mother.
V.—That I may quickly rise again should I have the misfortune to fall into sin.
R.—Help me, O loving Mother.
V.—That I may break asunder any bonds

of Satan, in which I may become entangled.

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

V.—Against the seductions of the world, evil companions and bad books.

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

V.—That I may soon return to my former fervor, should I ever become lukewarm.

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

V.—In my preparation for the sacraments and the performance of my Christian duties.

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

V.—In all the trials and troubles of life.

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

V.—Against my own inconstancy, that I may persevere to the end.

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

V.—That I may ever love and serve thee and always invoke thy assistance.

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

V.—That I may be able to induce others to love, serve and pray to thee.

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

V.—O Mother to my last hour to my last breath,do thou ever—

R.—Help me, O loving Mother.

Monthly Act of Consecration to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

I, DESIRING to consecrate myself entirely to the service of the ever Blessed Virgin Mary, from whom after God, I expect all help and assistance in life and in death, unite myself with the members of this pious archconfraternity, which has been erected in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

And as my special patron I choose the glorious St. Alphonsus, that he may obtain for me a true and lasting devotion to the ever Blessed Virgin, who is honored by so sweet a name.

I promise, moreover, to renew my consecration to the holy Mother of God and St. Alphonsus, on the . . .day of the month or on the Sunday following, and also to receive the holy sacraments. O Mother of Perpetual Help, receive me as thy servant, and grant that I may experience thy constant motherly assistance. I promise to have recourse to thee in all my spiritual and temporal necessities. My holy patron St. Alphonsus, obtain me me an ardent love for Jesus Christ, and constancy in invoking the Mother of Perpetual Help.

Act of Consecration to St. Alphonsus

O THOU most zealous doctor of the Church, St. Alphonsus, I—N. N. though unworth to be thy servant, yet emboldened by the goodness of thy heart, and because of my own great desire to please thee, kneel before thee now in the presence of the ever blessed Trinity, of my guardian angel, and of the whole host of heaven, and choose thee for my father; and, after Mary, for my patron and protector, I most solemnly pledge myself to be ever thy assiduous servant and to do all that I can to make others love thee. I beg of thee then, of my glorious patron, through the love of Jesus and Mary, to receive me into the number of thy children, and to watch over me in all times and places. Obtain for me the grace to imitate thy virtues, and to advance daily on the path of christian perfection. Obtain for me also, O my father, a holy indifference to creatures, and a tender and abiding devotion to the most Blessed Sacrament, and to my Mother Mary, the spirit of prayer, and a burning zeal for the salvation of souls. Accept this prayer and consecration of myself to thy service. Be ever nigh to assist me during life, but especially at the hour of my death, that having honored and served thee on earth, I may at length be found worthy to enjoy with thee the joys of heaven for all eternity. Amen.

Ejaculation

O Blessed Alphonsus, my beloved father, obtain for me the grace to have recourse to Mary in all my necessities.

Litany in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

LORD have mercy on us.
Christ have mercy on us.
Lord have mercy on us.

Christ hear us.
Christ graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven,
Have mercy on us.

God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Ghost
Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God.
Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary.
Holy Mother of God.
Holy Virgin of Virgins.
Mother of Christ.
Queen conceived without the stain of original sin.
Queen of the most Holy Rosary.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help,
O Mother of Perpetual Help, whose very name inspires confidence.
That I may love God with all my heart.
That I may in all things conform my will to that of thy Divine Son.

Pray For Me

That I may always shun sin, the only real evil,

That I may always remember my last end.

That I may often and devoutly receive the sacraments.

That I may avoid every proximate occasion of sin.

That I may never neglect prayer.

That I may ever remember to invoke thee, particularly in time of temptation.

That I may always be victorious in the hour of temptation.

That I may generously pardon my enemies.

That I may arise quickly, should I have the misfortune of falling into mortal sin.

That I may courageously resist the seductons of evil companions.

That I may be strong against my own inconstancy.

That I may not delay my conversion from day to day.

That I may labor zealously to eradicate my evil habits.

That I may ever love and serve thee.

That I may lead others to love and serve thee.

That I may live and die in the friendship of God.

In all necessities of body and soul.

In sickness and pain.

In poverty and distress.

In persecution and abandonment.

In grief and dereliction of mind.

Pray For Me

In time of war, famine and contagion.

In every danger of sin.

When assailed by the evil spirits.

When tempted by the allurements of a deceitful world.

When struggling against the inclinations of my corrupt nature.

When tempted against the holy virtue of purity.

When death is nigh.

When the loss of my senses shall warn me that my earthly career is at an end.

When the thought of my approaching dissolution shall fill me with fear and terror.

When at the decisive hour of death the evil spirit will endeavor to plunge my soul into despair.

When the minister of God shall give me his last absolution and his last blessing.

When my friends and relations surrounding my bed, moved with compassion, shall invoke thy clemency in my behalf.

When the world will vanish from my sight, and my heart will cease to beat.

When I shall yield my soul into the hands of its Creator.

When my soul will appear before its Sovereign Judge.

When the irrevocable sentences will be pronounced.

When I will be suffering in Purgatory, and sighing for the vision of God.
Lamb of God Who takest away the sins of the world.

Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God Who takest away the sins of the world,

Hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God Who takest away the sins of the world,

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

Come to my help, O loving Mother.

LET US PRAY.

O Almighty and Merciful God, Who, in order to succor the human race, has willed the Blessed Virgin Mary to become the Mother of thy only begotten Son, grant we beseech Thee, that by her intercession we may avoid the contagion of sin and serve Thee with a pure heart through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(An indulgence of 100 days, to be gained once a day, is granted for the aforesaid prayer —Rescript of May 17, 1866.)

MEDITATION

Mary our Hope

OUR life on earth is a warfare, a time of many miseries. In our sorrows, sufferings and trials, we must imitate Jesus Christ, and like Him fly to our Mother Mary for strength and comfort and perpetual help. Let this be the resolution of our novena to be kept all the days of our life.

Of Jesus Christ, St. Paul wrote: "For in that He himself hath suffered and been tempted He is able to succor them also that are tempted." To Mary too, it was given to suffer as Queen of martyrs so that she might be able to assist this suffering, sinful world. And not only did she learn like Jesus what sorrow and suffering were, but, as Mother and comforter of the Man of sorrows, she realized from experience how to compassionate that poor humanity in us. Wherefore it was that

the Creator and Father of mankind placed in her keeping His own divine Son in Whom were all human infirmities except sin. And when she had proved, and oh, how well!—her fitness, her skill, her tenderness in comforting, she was left by her dying Son to be our Mother, of Perpetual Help. "There stood by the cross" of Jesus His Mother to comfort and console Him as far as it lay within her power. It was then that Mary's sublime vocation, decreed by God from all eternity was ratified by the dying lips of her Son when He said to her: "Woman behold thy Son!" And to the disciple: "Behold thy Mother!" giving the world to Mary and Mary to the world, to be towards all men what she had always been to Him, a Mother of Perpetual Help.

O Jesus we thank Thee for all thou hast suffered for us even from Thy infancy,—for us so little worthy of Thy love and Thy mercy. O Jesus we are grateful to Thee for the gift of Thy own Mother. After the gift of Thyself and Thy redeeming blood the greatest Thy Sacred Heart could give us was Thy Mother to be for what she had ever been to Thee, a Mother

of Perpetual Help. "Mary," says St. Alphonsus, "is all eyes to pity and succor us in our necessities." She is the advocate of even the most miserable and abandoned who have recourse to her, and she rejoices when she consoles the miserable. "O sinner," says St. Alphonsus, "whoever you are, do not despair, but have confidence in this Lady with the assurance of being helped, for you will find her with her hands full of mercy and of graces." O Mother of Perpetual Help grant that we may always invoke thy most powerful and beautiful name, which is the safeguard of the living and the salvavtion of the dying.

Churches and Cities Where the Confraternity Has Been Canonically Established

Eastern Cities

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 526 59th St., Sation C, Brooklyn, N. Y.

S. Joseph's, 108 Franklin St., Rochester, N. Y.

St. Philomena's, 1421 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Most Holy Redeemer, 173 E. 3rd St., Grand Central Station, New York, N. Y.

St. Peter's, 1019 No. 5th St., Station S, Philadelphia, Pa.

St. Mary's 258 Pine St., Buffalo, New York.

St. Mary's Rectory, Annapolis, Md.

St. Michael's, 7 S. Wolfe St., Baltimore, Md.

St. Alphonsus, 300 West Broadway, Station S, New York, N. Y.

St. James, 1225 East Eager St., Baltimore, Md.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 1545 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

St. Boniface's, 174 Diamond St., Station O, Philadelphia, Pa.

Sacred Heart, 600 S. Third St., Baltimore, Md.

St. Wenceslaus', 2111 Ashland Ave., Baltimore, Md.

St. Clement's College, P. O. Box 436, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Immaculate Conception, 389 E. 150th St., Station R, New York, N. Y.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 323 E 61st St., Station Y, New York, N. Y.

St. Clement's, Box J, Ephrata, Lancaster Co., Pa.

St. Gerards, 240 W. Robb Ave., Lima, Ohio.

Western Cities

St. Alphonsus, 1118 N. Grand Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

St. Alphonsus, 2030 Constance St., New Orleans, La.

St. Michael's, 1633 Cleveland Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 325 Hunter Ave., Kansas City, Mo.

Holy Redeemer, 1721 Junction Ave., Detroit, Mich.

St. Alphonsus, 224 Carrier St., Grand Rapids, Mich.

St. Maximus Church, Daly City, Cal.

St. Alphonsus, 1429 Wellington Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Sacred Heart, 2315 6th Ave., Seattle, Wash.

St. Joseph's 605 West 6th Ave., Denver, Colo.

St. Alphonsus, 2618 Boies Ave., Davenport, Iowa.

Holy Redeemer, 261 East Portland Blvd., Portland, Oregon.

St. Alphonsus, 307 Kearney Ave., Fresno, Cal.

St. Gerard's, 1617 Iowa St., San Antonio, Texas.

St. Thomas, 919 Indiana Ave., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Holy Name, 3014 No. 45th St., Omaha, Nebraska.

St. Joseph's 144 S. Milwood Avenue, Wichita, Kansas.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 2191 Nebraska St., San Antonio, Texas.

St. Mary's 211 So. Newlin Ave., Whittier, Los Angeles Co., California.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 1108 W. 32nd St., Oklahoma City, Okla.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Albany, Oregon.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 8416 Foothill Blvd., Oakland, Cal.

St. Joseph's 405 E. South St., Lebanon, Indiana.

St. Anthony's, 607 W. Seminole Ave., Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Canadian Cities

St. Patrick's 141 McCaul St., Toronto, Canada.

St. Peter's, St. John, North, New Brunswick, Canada.

St. Patrick's 250 Grand Allee, Quebec, Canada.

St. Ann's, 33 Basin St., Montreal, Canada.

St. Patrick's 1245 Dundas St., Sub Station, 4, London, Ont., Canada.

St. Alphonsus, 341 Monroe Ave., East Kildonan, Manitoba, Canada.

Redemptorist Fathers, 2140 Cameron St., Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

St. Gerard's, Box 696, Yorkton, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3756 Sixth Ave W., Vancouver, B. C., Canada.

St. Alphonsus, 11828 85th St., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.